WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A method of identifying a port in a network address, said method
2   comprising:

3   providing an address for addressing a device on said network, said
4   address comprising a protocol identifier;

5   providing a port identifier operable to identify the port on which data
6   should be sent to an end-user device;

7   including said port identifier and said address as part of an address
8   string.

1   2.   A method of providing an address, said method comprising:

2   providing a requesting device coupled to a network;

3   providing an address, said address comprising a protocol identifier;

4   providing a port identifier, said port identifier operable to identify a
5   port on said requesting device;

6   including said port identifier as part of said address; and

7   transmitting said address from said requesting device onto said
8   network.

1   3.   The method as described in claim 2 and further comprising:

2   receiving said address at an intermediate device; and

3   addressing a data provider device while including said port identifier as
4   part of an address string.

1   4.   The method as described in claim 3 and further comprising:

2   transmitting a message from said data provider to the port of said
3   requesting device identified by said port identifier.

1   5.   A method of providing an address, comprising:

2   providing a protocol identifier;

3   providing an IP identifier;

4   providing a server identifier; and

5   providing a server port identifier.

1   6.   The method as described in claim 5 and further comprising:

2   coupling said protocol identifier with said IP identifier, said server

3 identifier and said server port identifier.

1   7.   The method as described in claim 5 and further comprising:

2   providing a file identifier.

1   8.   The method as described in claim 5 and further comprising:

2   coupling said protocol identifier with said IP identifier, said server

3 identifier, said server port identifier, and said file identifier.

1   9.   The method as described in claim 8 and further comprising:

2   organizing said address structure so that said port identifier is adjacent

3 said server identifier.

1   10.   A method of addressing data on a network, said method comprising:

2   providing a server;

3   sending a request for data utilizing a first protocol to an intermediary

4 device, said first protocol associated with a first port;

5   receiving said request for data at said intermediary device at said first

6 port;

7   interpreting said request for data at said intermediary device;

8   sending a request for data from said intermediary device utilizing a

9 second protocol to a content provider, said second protocol associated with a second port;

10   receiving said request for data from said intermediary device at said

11   content provider;

12   obtaining said data with said content provider;

13   sending a message from said content provider to said first port of said

14   server.

1   11.   A data structure for a network address, said data structure comprising:

2   a protocol identifier field;

3   a network device identifier field; and

4   a port identifier field.

1   12.   The data structure as described in claim 11 wherein said network

2   device identifier field comprises an internet protocol (IP) identifier field.

1   13.   The data structure as described in claim 11 and further comprising:

2   a server identifier field.

1   14.   The data structure as described in claim 11 and further comprising:

2   a file designation field.

1   15.   A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave comprising:

2   a protocol identifier segment;

3   a network device identifier segment; and

4   a port identifier segment.

1   16.   The computer data signal as described in claim 15 wherein said

2   network device identifier segment comprises an internet protocol (IP) identifier segment.

1   17.   The computer data signal as described in claim 15 and further

2   comprising:

3   a server identifier segment.

1   18.   The computer data signal as described in claim 15 and further

2 comprising:

3   a file designation segment.

1   19.   An apparatus for use in a network, said apparatus comprising:

2   a server operable to provide an address for addressing a device on said

3 network;

4   code operable to provide a protocol identifier for use in an address;

5   code operable to provide a port identifier; and

6   code operable to combine said port identifier with said protocol

7 identifier as part of an address string.

1   20.   The apparatus as described in claim 19 and further comprising:

2   code operable to provide a network device identifier for use in said

3 address string.

1   21.   The apparatus as described in claim 20 and further comprising:

2   code operable to provide an internet protocol (IP) identifier as part of

3 said network device identifier.

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